

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 03125 101242Z

47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 SAM-01

/065 W

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R 101130Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 807

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA POUCH

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, IN, UR

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS REPORTS SOVIET VETO OF INDIAN ARMS SALES TO EGYPT

1. LOCAL PRESS MARCH 10 CITES NEWS AGENCY REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON THAT SOVIET UNION HAS REFUSED TO ALLOW INDIA TO SELL MILITARY SPARE PARTS TO EGYPT, ESPECIALLY SPARES FOR EGYPT-S MIG-21 AIRCRAFT. CITING "SOURCES CLOSE TO US INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY," BRIEF FRONT-PAGE ARTICLES CONTAIN NO DETAILS OF PROCESS LEADING TO SOVIET VETO OF INDIAN INTENTIONS.

2. DESPITE LOW-KEY ITEM ON SOVIET REFUSAL OF INDIAN-EGYPTIAN ARMS DEAL, ALL DAILIES, INCLUDING FOREIGN LANGUAGE PAPERS, CARRY FRONT-PAGE PHOTOGRAPH OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR POLYAKOV MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT PREVIOUS DAY. CAPTIONS ON PICTURES

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DO NOT PROVIDE ANY DETAILS OF MEETING AND NO STORES CONCERNING

SADAT-POLYAKOV CONVERSATIONS APPEAR IN ANY OF CAIRO DAILIES.

3. COMMENT: SOVIETS IN CAIRO HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING FOR
SOME TIME THAT POLYAKOV UNABLE TO SEE SADAT FREQUENTLY ENOUGH
AND PUBLICATION OF POLYAKOV PHOTO (ESPECIALLY ON DAY OF
ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SOVIETS HAD REFUSED PERMISSION FOR INDIAN
ARMS SALES TO EGYPT) MAY BE SIMPLY EMPTY GESTURE TO SOVIETS,
IN VIEW OF TOTAL LACK OF ANY COVERAGE OF SUBSTANCE OF POLYAKOV-
SADAT DISCUSSIONS.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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